

209870US-0

JUL 18 2002



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

MIKHAIL MARKOVICH ET AL : EXAMINER: LILLING, H. J.

SERIAL NO: 09/886,254 :

FILED: JUNE 22, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1651

FOR: L-ARGININE PRODUCING
ESCHERICHIA COLI AND
METHOD OF PRODUCING
L-ARGININE

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated February 28, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-6.

Please add new Claims 7-10 as follows:

7. (New) An isolated *Escherichia coli*, which has an ability to produce and accumulate arginine in a medium when the bacterium is cultivated in the medium, and which is modified to have an ability to utilize acetate.

8. (New) An isolated *Escherichia coli* which has an ability to produce and accumulate arginine in a medium when the bacterium is cultivated in the medium, and which